

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the Cross Reference to Pending Applications beginning on page 1, line 3 with the following substitute paragraph:

This is a divisional of co-pending application Serial No. 10/035,885 filed December 24, 2001, now US Patent 6,730,246, which application claims the benefit of previously filed, co-pending Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/288,513 filed on May 3, 2001 and also of Provisional Patent Application Serial Number 60/288,515 filed on May 3, 2001.

Please delete the paragraph of the specification beginning on page 5, line 5 and ending on page 5, line 18.

Please delete the paragraph of the specification beginning on page 5, line 19 and ending on page 5, line 31.

Please substitute the following substitute paragraph for the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 29 and ending on page 17, line 23.

In accordance with the embodiment of this invention depicted in Figures 13 -19, two flexible mold parts 124, 132 are formed in a multi-step process. In the first step of this process, the tissue side 4 of the original denture 2 is covered by a malleable or pliable sacrificial or filler material 114'. The resultant temporary or sacrificial member 114 partially fills a portion of a dental flask 160 so that the remaining portion of the flask can be filled with a fluid material 132' to form a first part 132 of the multi-piece mold. It is not necessary that this sacrificial or temporary filler member 114 conform precisely to the contour of the tissue side 4 original denture 2. It is only important that this or temporary sacrificial member 114 cover those surfaces on the original denture that will be matched by a subsequently formed tissue side mold member 124. A simple material such as play dough, formed by combining flour, vegetable oil, salt and boiling water in a conventional

manner can be used to form this sacrificial member 114. This sacrificial member 114 is formed on one of the two parts of the flask or of the container 160 in which the mold is to be formed. Two alternative methods of forming this sacrificial member will be subsequently discussed. As shown in Figure 13, filler material 114 covers the tissue side 4 of original denture 2 substantially up to a parting line 116 along the original denture 2, which will separate the denture tissue side 4 from the denture exterior side 6. Of course a complementary parting line will be eventually formed on the two mold parts. A diverging, sloping surface 126' extending away from this parting line 116 and away from the original denture 2, should also be formed on the sacrificial member 114. This diverging, sloping surface 126' extends completely around the sacrificial member 114. The sacrificial member 114 will then comprise a male member, and the significance of the sloping surface 126' will be subsequently discussed with reference to the positioning of the two mold halves 124, 132 and to the storage of the two mold halves in an unloaded condition in which the two elastomeric mold parts will not be subject to forces that might cause creep or result in cold deformation.

Please substitute the following substitute paragraph for the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 24 and ending on page 18, line 4.

In the embodiment shown in Figures 13- 19, the sacrificial member 114 covers the tissue side 4 of the original denture 2 and is mounted on the dental flask cover or lid 172. One technique for forming this temporary sacrificial member is to apply the malleable filler material 114A to the tissue side of the denture and filler material 114B the inner face 174 of the dental flask cover 172 in a process commonly referred to as "cow piling". The cover 172 and the original denture 2 are then joined as temporary subassembly by pressing the two masses of sacrificial material 114A, 114B together and shaping the exterior of the temporary sacrificial member 114 into a smooth surface. This exterior smooth surface should be tapered away from the denture 2 to form a diverging sloping surface 126' which extends from the eventual mold parting line 116 toward the edge of flask cover 172. A release agent is applied to the exposed surfaces of the original denture 2 and to the exposed surface of the sacrificial or temporary filler member 114.

Please substitute the following substitute paragraph for the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 3 and ending on page 22, line 9.

In the preferred embodiments of this invention, the tissue side mold part is located on the flask cover side of the mold and the exterior side mold part is located in the flask base. The relative orientations of the two parts of the mold can be reversed, but it has been found that extraction of the original denture and of the replacement denture is easier if the tissue side mold part is located on the top. Otherwise the mold cavity may be situated too deeply within the mold flask base, making it more difficult to extract dentures from the mold cavity.

Please substitute the following Abstract for the abstract originally presented.

ABSTRACT

A mold used in duplicating a denture consists of a tissue side mold section and an exterior side mold section. The tissue side mold section is made of a dimensionally stable material, such as dental stone or an addition-cured silicone rubber, so that the tissue side of the denture can be accurately reproduced at a later time. The exterior side mold is made of a resilient material, so that the original denture and its duplicate can be removed from the mold. The mold sections are housed in a two part flask that was initially used to fabricate the mold sections. The mold is fabricated by the steps of forming an impression of the original denture, and of fabricating a replacement denture using this mold.